KP govt opposed to military operations, says Afridi

Chairs cabinet meeting, warns attempt to impose decisions on province will have 'undesirable consequences'

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Sohail Afridi on Monday reiterated opposition to military operations in the province and said if the decisions were taken behind closed doors and imposed on the province, it would create serious concerns among all stakeholders.

In November last year, a "grand peace jirga", called by the KP government to discuss the law and order situation in the province, issued a 15-point joint declaration to overcome the challenge.

The jirga, which was held at the KP Assembly, unanimously declared that a military operation was not a solution to any problem, according to an official statement issued after the cabinet meeting.

The chief minister said that the provincial government held the "same clear and unequivocal stance" and that under the leadership of PTI founder Imran Khan, it declared that issues should be resolved through political, social and consultative processes rather than the use of force.

He said that all participants of the peace jirga also agreed on that point.

"If, despite this unanimous stand, decisions are taken behind closed doors and attempts are made to impose those decisions on the province, it will create serious concern among all stakeholders. No single individual or institution can forcibly impose decisions on the province, and that the consequences of such actions will not be what the decision-makers desire."

Mr Afridi said that peace was not only a requirement of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa but a shared necessity for the entire Pakistan.

He, however, said sustainable and lasting peace required a comprehensive, inclusive and collective policy.

"Such a policy must include all institutions, political and religious parties, tribal and Pashtun elders, and community leaders so that an effective and acceptable course of action can be developed through mutual consultation."

The chief minister said that when all stakeholders sat together, not only would an effective policy be formulated, but peace would also be restored. He said in contrast, decisions made behind closed doors could neither establish peace nor restore public trust.

The chief minister said that the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government was opposed to any military operation and would not allow it under any circumstances.

The meeting also approved several key decisions related to governance reforms, social welfare, health, education, youth development, and overseas Pakistanis.

The cabinet approved the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Establishment of Special Courts (Overseas Pakistanis Properties) Act, 2025.

The chief minister said overseas Pakistanis play a vital role in the country's economic development, and protecting their rights and properties is a key responsibility of the provincial government.

He said the establishment of special courts would help ensure swift resolution of property-related disputes involving overseas Pakistanis.

The cabinet also decided to refer the agenda for a police-style "Shuhada Package" for the staff of the excise, taxation and narcotics control department to a cabinet committee. It ordered the formulation of a comprehensive uniform policy to include martyrs from other uniformed forces in the province.

Besides, approval was also granted for the purchase of buses for the Special Education Complex Hayatabad, while directions were issued to arrange transport facilities for children under the care of the Zamung Kor initiative.

In view of the harsh winter season, the social welfare department was directed to take special measures for homeless people, and authorities were instructed to ensure adequate arrangements for tourists in winter tourist destinations.

The cabinet approved the release of Rs900 million to the irrigation department for desilting campaign and said that the desilting campaign should be carried out in a transparent and organised manner. It added that the initiative would also help reduce potential flood damage.

Further precautionary measures were ordered in light of weather forecasts issued by the Meteorological Department.

For youth engagement, the cabinet approved Rs6 million for the organisation of the Grand Kurram Youth Convention. It emphasised that providing youth with platforms for dialogue and debate on national and provincial issues is the need of the hour and contributes to national cohesion.

The cabinet also directed that similar youth conventions be organised in other districts.

The meeting approved the procurement of vehicles for National Parks and Wildlife projects, forest staff in merged districts, and the Office of the Provincial Ombudsperson. The cabinet directed all departments to submit details of government vehicles within one week, along with annual expenditures incurred on their maintenance.

The cabinet approved bringing the Cadet College Lakki Marwat under the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Educational and Training Institutions Ordinance, 1971, and endorsed the 4-tier formula for the upgradation of Librarians in the Colleges of Higher Education Department.

In the health sector, the cabinet sanctioned Rs448 million for the Structural Heart and Cardiac Transplant Programme, approved funds for the replacement of hemodialysis machines in government hospitals, allowed the continuation of services of head nurses and clinical/senior clinical technicians in MTI hospitals, and financial assistances for treatment were approved for two residents.

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif records his remarks in the visitors' book at the Bangladesh High Commission to offer condolences on the passing of former premier Begum Khaleda Zia.—PPI

DERA ISMAIL KHAN: A police constable was martyred when unidentified armed assailants opened fire at him near the Paniala police station here on Monday.

According to the police, the firing took place close to the old building of the police station, and as a result, constable Qayyum embraced martyrdom. His body was shifted to a nearby hospital for medico-legal formalities.

Police said that evidence had been collected from the scene in the supervision of SHO Faheem Mumtaz Khan. Further investigation is underway, and efforts have been initiated to trace and arrest the suspects involved in the attack.

Following the incident, security in the area has been placed on high alert. Police have set up checkpoints and launched search operations in surrounding localities to ensure the safety of residents. — Correspondent

MPA booked for 'assaulting' traffic cop in Swat

SWAT: The Khwazakhela police on Monday registered an FIR against Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf MPA from PK-4 Ali Shah Khan for allegedly assaulting a traffic police official in the Khwazakhela Bazaar.

According to the FIR, constable of the traffic police Habibullah insisted that he was performing duty at Khwazakhela Chowk when MPA Ali Shah Khan got out of his vehicle, verbally abused him, slapped him and threatened him with dire consequences.

The lawmaker was booked under the Pakistan Penal Code sections 500, 506, 168 and 353.

A video of the assault later went viral on social media.

Mr Ali Shah issued a video statement, saying Khwazakhela remains gridlocked for hours due to traffic mismanagement and negligence of traffic police, so he gave the policeman only a "light push."

He added that if he desired, he could pass through the bazaar within minutes with full protocol but he cared about people and chose to "endure these hardships like them." — Correspondent

KHYBER: Terrorists on Monday blew up the house of Awami National Party, Khyber district president Abdur Razzaq Afridi in the restive Tirah Valley.

Sources in Bara said that Mr Afridi had been receiving threats from some time to abandon his campaign for peace.

They said that his newly-built house in Kalana area was blown up with explosives on Monday morning.

The sources said that terrorists had earlier in 2025 burnt a portion of the house and now the entire structure was destroyed using explosives.

In a statement issued in Bara, Mr Afridi vowed that such coward incidents of terrorism could not deter his resolve to work for lasting peace both in Tirah and Bara. — Correspondent

Despite risks, most Muslim states still back Gaza force

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troop commitments.

Diplomats say broad conceptual support exists, but final decisions hinge on unresolved questions about the force's mandate, authority, rules of engagement and command structure.

The ISF is expected to operate under UN Security Council Resolution 2803, which envisages enforcement of demilitarisation and provision of security, but details remain contested. Reports in the Western media have mentioned Indonesia and Azerbaijan as potential contributors, while Pakistan, Turkiye, Malaysia and Morocco have also shown interest.

Egypt and Qatar — both key mediators between Israel and Hamas — are engaged in talks on ISF's command structure and have helped establish coordination mechanisms.

At the same time, resistance remains strong.

Israel has explicitly opposed the participation of Turkish troops, citing Ankara's past political support for Hamas. Saudi Arabia and the UAE have reportedly declined to contribute forces, though both have attended planning conferences. Pakistan, for its part, has conveyed that disarming Hamas would not be its role.

Against this backdrop, The Washington Institute for Near East Policy shared with the media a series of assessments by its senior fellows, warning that without a credible ISF, Israel would insist on retaining broad freedom of military action in Gaza.

"If the ISF is not given a clear mandate and full enforcement powers, or if Hamas refuses to surrender its weapons, Israel will press for continued freedom of action against renewed rearmament efforts, a freeze on any planned Gaza reconstruction efforts beyond the yellow line, and freedom to remain in its current Gaza deployment zones until these issues are addressed," said Neomi Neumann, an adjunct fellow at the institute.

Dennis Ross, a former special assistant to ex-president Obama, said demilitarisation would be the decisive test. "In the end, everything will likely hinge on implementing a credible approach to demilitarising Gaza — not only because Israel will demand it, but also because Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates have made clear there will be no major Gulf investment in reconstruction so long as Hamas retains access to military weapons and infrastructure," he said.

Mr Ross argued for a phased approach including the beginning of reconstruction in secured areas.

"Whatever the case, a comprehensive plan is needed that synchronises all of these moving parts," he added.

Ms Neumann cautioned that many fundamentals were still unresolved.

"Still unknown, however, is which countries will agree to participate, under what conditions they will deploy, and at which specific locations," she said, warning that the success of Phase 2 and the durability of any ceasefire would depend on "immediate security stabilisation, gradual disarmament, and the transfer of authority to a reformed PA — none of which are possible without a clear definition of the ISF's mandate."

Michael Jacobson, a senior fellow at the institute's counterterrorism programme, said disagreements among US partners were also slowing progress.

"The United States, Jordan, and Egypt have each developed their own training plans, and Israel has yet to back any of them," he said.

"To move forward, the Trump administration must get all of these governments on board with a consensus plan," including clarity on command and control, formal authorities, and alignment between mission and capabilities.

Another unresolved issue is the future role of the Palestinian Authority.

Ghaith al-Omari, a senior fellow at the institute, said Washington faced a delicate balancing act. "Allowing for an immediate PA operational role would go against the US plan and signal that Washington's demands for PA reform are not serious," he said. "Yet completely excluding the PA would serve Hamas's goals and may face opposition from Arab states."

Mr al-Omari suggested a compromise under which the PA initially plays a limited, symbolic role, such as appointing a liaison to a governing body overseeing Gaza's transition.

For now, diplomats say, Muslim states remain torn between political risk and moral urgency. Yet many privately argue that without an international force on the ground, Gaza faces the prospect of prolonged devastation — a burden they say they are increasingly unwilling to bear.

NOTICE FOR EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

In the matter of:-

Civil Original No. 76821of 2025

KHADIJA ASSOCIATES (PRIVATE) LIMITED,
REGISTERED OFFICE AT SHOP NO. 5, LEGACY TOWER,
KOHINOOR CITY, FAISALABAD
And
STYLISH ASSOCIATES (SMC-PRIVATE) LIMITED,
REGISTERED OFFICE AT 47 B-2, GULBERG, LAHORE

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Order dated December 23, 2025, of the Honourable Lahore High Court, Lahore passed in petition Civil Original. No. 76821of 2025, (being a Petition for sanctioning of Scheme of Arrangement between above companies under Section 279 to 283 and 285 of the Companies Act, 2017), Extra-Ordinary General Meetings (hereinafter the 'EOGM') of Khadija Associates(Private) Limited and Stylish Associates (SMC-Private) Limited will be held as follows to transact the below mentioned special business:

Sr.	Name of Company	Venue	Date &Time
1.	Khadija Associates (Private) Limited	Stylo Office 161-M, Quaid-e-Azam Industrial Estate, Kot Lakhpat, Lahore	3:00 P.M. Friday, January 30, 2026
2.	Stylish Associates (SMC-Private) Limited	Stylo Office 161-M, Quaid-e-Azam Industrial Estate, Kot Lakhpat, Lahore	3:30 P.M. Friday, January 30, 2026

Special Business:

To consider and if thought fit, to agree, approve and adopt the Scheme of Compromises, Arrangements and Amalgamation(the "Scheme") between Khadija Associates (Private) Limited and Stylish Associates (SMC-Private) Limited by passing or otherwise, inter alia, the following special resolutions, with or without modification(s), addition(s) or deletion(s):

"**RESOLVED THAT** the Scheme of Arrangement for, inter alia, compromise, arrangement and amalgamation(the "**Scheme**") between M/s. Khadija Associates(Private) Limited and its members, and M/s. Stylish Associates (SMC-Private) Limited and its member, considered by this meeting and initialled by the chairperson of this meeting for purposes of identification, be and is hereby approved, adopted and agreed, subject to any modification(s) or conditions as may be required/imposed by the Honourable Lahore High Court, Lahore.

RESOLVED FURTHER THAT, the Board of Directors and / or the Chief Financial Officer and / or the Company Secretary of the Company, be and are hereby, singly and severally, authorized to do all such acts, deeds, matters and take any steps / measures for the implementation and completion of the Scheme"

Chairperson of the Meeting
Mr. Khawaja Aizaz Ahsan
Advocate High Court
15-A, Gulberg-V
Lahore
Chairperson

NOTES: -

1. The Statement under Section 281 of the Companies Act, 2017 (hereinafter the "**Act**") read with the statement of material facts under Section 134(3) of the Act (hereinafter the '**Statement**') setting forth, inter alia, the terms of the compromises, arrangements and amalgamation and explaining its effect, along with a copy of the Scheme, the Board Resolutions dated December 19, 2025, and the Net Worth Certificate of M/s. Hassan Majid& Co., Chartered Accountants are being circulated along with notices of the EOGMs to the members and other person(s) entitled to receive notices of EOGMs.
2. Copies of the Scheme, the Statement, the latest audited financial statements of Stylish Associates (SMC-**Private**) Limited, and all published or otherwise required financial statements for prior periods of Stylish Associates (SMC-**Private**) Limited can also be obtained, free of charge, from the registered office of Stylish Associates (SMC-**Private**) Limited(as provided in the title), during usual business hours i.e., 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 P.M. Monday to Friday, by the members and other persons entitled to attend the EOGMs by making application addressed to the Company Secretary at the relevant company's registered address.
3. Copies of the Scheme, the Statement, the latest audited financial statements of Stylish Associates (SMC-**Private**) Limited, all published or otherwise required financial statements of all prior periods of Stylish Associates (SMC-**Private**) Limited, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and other relevant report(s) and related information/documents have been kept at the registered offices of the relevant company which can be inspected during the business hours on any working day from the date of publication of this notice till the day before the respective EOGM by the respective members and other persons entitled to attend the said EOGMs. The same will also be available for inspection at the respective EOGM by the respective members. In case of any difficulty, the same should be brought immediately to the notice of the aforementioned Chairperson.
4. The Shares Transfer Books of each company will remain closed from January 26, 2026, to January 30, 2026 (both days inclusive). Transfers received at registered address of the respective companies by the close of business hours on January 30, 2026, will be treated as being in time for the purpose of attending and voting at the respective EOGM.
5. Members of Khadija Associates (**Private**) Limited entitled to attend and vote at its EOGM may appoint another member as his/her proxy to attend and vote on his/her behalf at the EOGM of Khadija Associates (**Private**) Limited. Proxies, in order to be effective, must be duly stamped and signed and received at the respective registered office of the relevant company not less than 48 hours before the time of the EOGMs. The Proxy Form is attached to the notices of the EOGMs circulated to the members of the respective companies.
6. Members are requested to immediately notify any change in their registered addresses to the Company Secretary of the respective company.